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AUTHOR Anderson, Paul S.
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ABSTRACT

Knowing place names is not the essence of geography, but some knowledge of names of geographical locations is widely considered to be basic information. Whether used in general cultural literacy, lighthearted Trivial Pursuit, educational sixth grade social studies, or serious debates on world events, place names and their locations are assumed to be known. At the college level of world regional geography courses, five books with lists of place names are in print by geographers: Fuson; MacKinnon; Pontius and Woodward; DiLisio; and Stoltman. Those five sources plus place name lists by P.S. Anderson and from Hirsch reveal similarities and diversities in their content. A core list of place names is presented with several cross-classifications by region, type of geographic feature, and grade level of students. The results reveal a logical progression of complexity that could assist geography educators to increase student learning and avoid duplication of efforts. There will never be complete agreement about any listing of the core geographical place names, but the presented lists are intended to stimulate discussion along constructive avenues. (Author)

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Seeking a Core of World Regional Geography Place Names: An Analysis of Published Materials

Paul S. Anderson, Ph.D.
Department of Geography-Geology
Illinois State University
Normal, IL 61761

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Seeking a Core of World Regional Geography Place Names: An Analysis of Published Materials

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ABSTRACT

Knowing place names is not the essence of geography, but some knowledge of names of geographical locations is widely considered to be basic information. Whether used in general cultural literacy (ala E.D. Hirsch, Jr.), lighthearted Trivial Pursuit, educational sixth grade social studies, or serious debates on world events, place names and their locations are assumed to be known. At the college level of world regional geography courses, five books with lists of place names are in print by geographers: Fuson; MacKinnon; Pontius and Woodward; DiLisio; and Stoltman. Those five sources plus place name lists by the author and from Hirsch reveal similarities and diversities in their content. A core list of place names has been prepared with several cross-classifications by region, type of geographic feature, and grade level of students. The results reveal a logical progression of complexity that could assist geography educators to increase student learning and avoid duplication of efforts. There will never be complete agreement about any listing of the core geographical place names, but the presented lists are intended to stimulate discussion along constructive avenues.

[Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Council for Geographic Education (NCGE), Hershey, Pennsylvania, 11-14 October 1989.] With update, April 1990. See page 7.

I. INTRODUCTION

Geography is far more than a list of place names. On the other hand, geography without reference to specific places would be a cold, abstract discipline estranged from its historical roots and major traditions. Some knowledge of the names of geographical locations is widely considered to be basic knowledge not only for professional geographers, but for the general public, including school children. Whether used in general cultural literacy, lighthearted Trivial Pursuit, social studies classrooms, news broadcasts or serious debates on world events, place names and their locations are often assumed to be known. The resurgence of geography education in recent years can be partially linked to media attention to the lack of geographic literacy. The most common measurement of geographic literacy has been place name knowledge.

The recognition that people need some place name knowledge raises the question of what should be learned. Two crucial variables are the learners' educational levels (adults should know more than grade school children) and their geographic locations. People need to learn more about areas in which they live or with which they have major current or historical ties. For example, children in Pennsylvania know (and need to know) relatively more about

their home state than about Illinois or California. In China, Italy and the United States people learn (and need to learn) more about their respective countries than about the other countries. Furthermore, because of cultural origins such as the Roman Empire and historical ties through immigration and World War II, people in the United States normally learn more about Italy than about China. Right or wrong, this is how the learning of geographic locations operates in our societies. People learn about what is of most interest and use to them, or what teachers and school boards indicate as being most important to learn.

The specification of what is to be learned is far easier and more common than indicating what is not to be learned. The "not-to-be-learned" information, whether place names or chemical formulae or works of art, is seldom specified because there is no upper limit on learning. Such items are noticeable only by their omission from the "to-be-learned" materials that are considered "basic" or "essential."

Whether consciously or not, every teacher and textbook author is actively involved in the specification of the "to-be-learned" information. Clear specification is important, but educators should not glory in the act of specifying a list. As Samuel Johnson wrote:

> "There is no matter what children should learn first, any more than what leg you should put into your breeches first. Sir, you may stand disputing which is best to put in first, but in the meantime your backside is bare. Sir, while you stand considering which of two things you should teach your child first, another boy has learn't 'em both."

Although Johnson says to avoid disputes about the order of learning, he does imply that specific items are to be learned and can be determined. Indeed, the bestseller book Cultural Literacy by E.D. Hirsch, Jr. (1987), strongly argues that a clear statement of core knowledge is a vital component for the education of a civilized population. The category "world geography place names" is one of twenty-three "subject sections" used by Hirsch and his co-authors in the Dictionary of Cultural Literacy (1988).

II. DETERMINING A CORE LIST OF PLACE NAMES

The remainder of this paper is a review and synthesis of the published efforts to specify the core geographic place names that should be known by residents of the United States. There is no attempt to equate the resultant lists with what should be known by Italians, Chinese, Brazilians, Australians or anyone else. Similarities between lists for different national groups are expected, but that is not an issue of this paper.

Two reasonable expectations can be used when making a content list for a subject. First, when several experts in the field prepare lists independently, the items found on the majority of those lists can be a reasonable basis for defining the core list. This method was also used by Bacon and Green (1981) when they listed the core concepts of introductory physical geography. Second, a core list for educated people is built upon and includes the

items that constitute essential knowledge of less educated (generally younger) populations. That is, what young students learn is normally included within the core items for adults. For example, the cultural literacy lists by Hirsch and his co-authors for third, sixth and twelfth grade students are cumulative.

At least five full-fledged publications attempt to specify what geographic place names should be known (or at least be attempted to be learned) by American college students enrolled in a course such as "World Regional Geography." The book authors are all accomplished geography educators (in alphabetical order):

DiLisio, James E., Towson State University, Towson, Maryland
Fuson, Robert, University of South Florida (Emeritus), Tampa, Florida
MacKinnon, Richard M., Allan Hancock College, Santa Maria, California
Pontius, Steven K. and Susan L. Woodward, Radford University, Radford, Virginia
Stoltman, Joseph P., Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan

The most recent editions of all five books were published between 1986 and 1989. Their distinct similarities and differences are discussed in Appendix A. A sixth list compiled by the author during the past twelve semesters was included in the comparisons. Finally, the geography lists from the Cultural Literacy Foundation were utilized.

In fairness to all seven source lists, no one list was dominant. Every list had some noteworthy omissions, probably because of editorial oversights. All sources ended with at least seventy percent of their listed places included on the core list.

III. COMMENTS ABOUT THE CORE LISTS

The core lists as compiled from the seven sources are presented as Appendix B. Each of the following geographic regions has a separate list consisting of the number of names indicated in parentheses.

1. Macro World (overview plus ocean and polar regions) (116)
2. Anglo America (152)
3. Latin America (95)
4. Africa South of the Sahara (95)
5. Northern Africa (23)
6. Europe (excluding USSR) (127)
7. USSR (59)
8. East and South Asia (108)
9. Middle East (southwest Asia) (63)
10. Australia and Oceania (46)

The total is approximately 800 separate place names. A few entries are duplicates, such as most of the Marco World list and border locations like Ural .ountains on the lists for Europe and USSR. A few other entries such as Cuba are listed only once although the name refers to both an island and a country.

The place names are organized on each list in the following five divisions:

1. Regions and Terrain Features: Mountains, Deserts, etc.
2. Cities: Urban and Industrial Areas
3. Water Features: Rivers, Lakes, etc.
4. Political Units: Countries, States, etc.

There is no special order to the items within each division. Alphabetizing the names would serve no major purpose. Frequently the names are grouped by internal regions or arranged in directional order, such as from north to south from Mexico to Panama.

All items on the core lists that are also on the cultural literacy lists are identified by a preceding 3, 6 or T. These three identifiers signify third, sixth and twelfth grades, respectively, as classified by the Cultural Literacy Foundation. Changes to these three subsets are probable. For example, the place names in Appendix C were listed as basic knowledge for twelfth grade students but are not on the lists in Appendix B for college level students of world regional geography. Unmarked items in Appendix B are yet to be classified as being essential (E), medium (M) or difficult (D) for the educational level of college undergraduates enrolled in a world regional geography course.

IV. DISCLAIMERS, COPYRIGHTS AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

No list will ever be perfect. Many individual users will want specific additions. Also, even the best lists must undergo evolutionary changes to be up to date in accuracy and relevance.

No list content can be copyrighted under the laws of the United States. Nobody can own a list of public names such as the names of the 50 States of the USA. But a specific typesetting and physical layout can be protected by copyright. The lists in Appendix B may be freely copied by all teachers for use in the improvement of geographic education. Neither this author nor the authors of the referenced books accept responsibility for possible errors of omission, inclusion, spelling, classification, etc. Suggestions for improvement are welcome, but there is no need for debate. Any users who desire to add, delete or modify the lists in any way may do so provided they use common academic practices to acknowledge that changes have been made to lists provided by others.

The future of these lists will depend upon their reception and usage by teachers and other scholars. Therefore, comments pro and con from each user would be helpful and appreciated. Expecially if there is some concensus about the utility of these lists, the author intends to enter them into a simple computerized database to categorize, sort and print appropriate combinations and sub-sets of the lists. For example, an alphabetized list of cities in North and South America for sixth grade classes could be easily generated. If warranted, the author will endeavor to provide such lists and/or the entire database in cooperation with geography professional societies.

Additional support items such as brief commentaries about places, study

guides, exercises, examinations, outline maps and maps with printed place names are also important. Some of those support materials are already available within the books cited in Appendix A. The success of those books and other support materials rests largely upon the response of the potential users. Comments are sincerely requested.

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Bacon, Robert S. and Jerry E. Green (1981). "Core Concepts in Introductory Physical Geography." Journal of Geography, March 1981, pages 104-108.

DiLisio, James E. (1986). Geographic Place Names of World Regions. Kendall/Hunt, Dubuque, Iowa.

Fuson, Robert (1989). Fundamental Place-Name Geography (6th ed.). Wm.C. Brown Publishers, Dubuque, Iowa.

Hirsch, E.D., Jr. (1987). Cultural Literacy: What Every American Needs to Know. Vintage Books, New York.

Hirsch, E.D. Jr., Joseph F. Kett and James Trefil (1988). The Dictionary of Cultural Literacy. Houghton Mifflin, Boston, Massachusetts.

Johnson, Samuel. Quotation found in Hirsch (1987), page xiii.

MacKinnon, Richard M. (1986). World Place Location Learning System (4th ed.). Allan Hancock College, Santa Maria, California.

Pontius, Steven K. and Susan L. Woodward (1987). Regional Geography: Global Patterns (2nd ed.). Kendall/Hunt, Dubuque, Iowa.

Stoltman, F. Joseph P. (1987). Goode's Atlas Place Location Study Guide. Rand McNally, Chicago, Illinois.

APPENDIX A

Five Source Books of Geographic Place Names

Five published books about geographic place names were used in the preparation of Appendix B. All five are excellent and each has specific strengths. None is a substitute for an atlas. All are paperbacks with black ink on 8.5 X 11 inch white paper. The brief commentaries that follow indicate a few key differences. All five are recommended for consideration as required or optional supplements for world regional geography courses. The order below is by date of earliest first edition.

Fuson, Robert (1989). Fundamental Place Name Geography (6th. ed.). Wm. C. Brown Publishers, Dubuque, Iowa.

> Intended as a supplement to a standard geographical text. 139 pages, including 30 pages of outline maps. Organized by 9 major regions. Place names are presented either within the narrative text or as listed items with descriptive explanations. Numerous "self-tests" on place names throughout the book. The author used the book at the University of South Florida, Tampa, where he is a Professor Emeritus of Geography. First published in 1966, this book has roots 10 to 20 years older than the other volumes.

MacKinnon, Richard M. (1986). World Place Location Learning System (4th ed.). Allan Hancock College, Santa Maria, California.

> Intended for use with Goode's World Atlas, but a different atlas could be used. 91 pages and 13 units are organized by world regions. No maps are included; Rand McNally outline maps are recommended. Place names are in topical lists, often with descriptive statements. Frequent "progress tests" and three versions of each unit test are provided. The author teaches geography at Allan Hancock College, Santa Maria, California.

Pontius, Steven K. and Susan L. Woodward (1987). Regional Geography: Global Patterns (2nd ed.). Kendall/Hunt Publishing, Dubuque, Iowa.

> Intended as a course supplement book for world regional geography. 197 pages, of which 144 focus on themes and concepts. The final 50 pages include outline maps plus place names in lists without commentaries for 12 regions of the world. No place name questions or quizes but it contains numerous exercises on concepts. Used in a geography course at Radford University, Radford, Virginia, where the authors teach geography.

DeLisio, James E. (1986). Geographic Place Names of World Regions. Kendall/Hunt, Publishing, Dubuque, Iowa.

> Intended as a manual to implement and support efforts in introductory geography courses. 240 pages, including outline maps in multiple

copies. Organized by 14 major regions. Place names are in short topical lists with introductions plus brief comments on selected locations that pose unique locational problems. Numerous "review tests" and "practice map tests are offered". Lessons are based on the Rand McNally Classroom Atlas, but a different atlas could be used. Author teaches at Towson State University, Towson, Maryland.

Stoltman, Joseph P. (1987). Goode's Atlas Place Location Study Guide. Rand McNally, Chicago.

Intended for use with Goode's World Atlas, but a different atlas could be used. The 11 chapters (93 pages) are based on world regions. No maps are included; a packet of outline maps is sold separately. Place names are in short lists in each "activity" for study. A teacher's edition includes numerous suggestions for use plus answers to exercises and "check your progress" quizes that are thematic as well as locational. The author is a Professor of Geography at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

UPDATE: April 1990

Two additional books with place names for world regional geography became available in 1989-90.

Jackson, Richard H. and Lloyd E. Hudman (1990). Study Guide for World Regional Geography (3rd. ed.). John Wiley, New York.

Intended as a study guide for students using authors' textbook (1990, same name and publisher). 173 pages, including outline maps. Each of the eighteen chapters (which match the textbook chapters) contain place name lists which are slightly shorter and more selective than in the other source books. The majority of the book is exercises and activities about geography issues and concepts, not about place names. The authors teach geography at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah.

Wyckoff, William K., John P. Wilson and Joseph M. Ashley (1989). World Regional Geography Workbook, Kendall/Hunt Publishing. Dubuque, Iowa.

Intended to provide learning aids for use with almost any world regional geography textbook. 179 pages. Each geographic region has key points, a data table, place name lists without commentaries, outline maps (2 copies), and study questions. The final fifty pages contain eight exercises that integrate study across the diverse regions. The authors are at Montana State University.

McKinnon, Richard M. (1990). (The 5th edition has been published.)

APPENDIX B

MACWOR89 WORLD GEOGRAPHY: GEO 135 ISU Department of Geography-Geology

List of Geographical Features: Macro World (Part of Test 1 in course)
(plus specific features as indicated by your instructor)

REGIONS AND TERRAIN FEATURES: Continents, mountain ranges, deserts, islands, etc.

Continents: (approx. sizes in millions of square miles

3 Africa (12)
3 Asia (17)
3 Antarctica (5.5)
3 Australia (3)
3 Europe (4)
3 North America (9)
3 South America (6)

Major World Regions:
- Polar Regions
- Oceania
- Australia-New Zealand
- Anglo-America
- Europe (Non-USSR)
- USSR
- East Asia
- Southeast Asia
- South Asia
- Middle East (Southwest Asia)
- North Africa
- Africa South of Sahara
- Latin America

Mountains:

3 Himalayas
3 Alps
3 Rockies
3 Andes
3 Appalachians

Desert regions:

3 Sahara
- American Southwest (no specific name)
- Australian desert areas

Islands:

3 Greenland
6 Madagascar
T Borneo
T New Guinea
- Baffin
- Sumatra

WATER FEATURES: Oceans, Seas and Rivers

Oceans:

3 Pacific-North and South
3 Atlantic-North and South
3 Indian
3 Arctic

Seas:

3 Mediterranean
3 Carribean
3 Mexico (Gulf of)

Ocean Currents: (Specify cold or warm)

T Gulf Stream
- Peru (Humboldt) Current
- North Atlantic Drift
- North Pacific Drift
- West Wind Drift
- Equatorial Currents (several)
- Brazil Current
- California Current
- Alaska Current
- Labrador Current

Rivers: (Rank by length)

3 Mississippi
3 Nile
3 Amazon
3 Chang Jiang (Yangtze)

COUNTRIES: (Specify approx. sizes of 6 largest)

3 India
3 China (People's Republic)
3 USSR
3 France
3 Italy
3 Spain
3 United Kingdom
3 Japan
3 Vietnam
3 South Korea
3 Iran
3 Mexico
3 Canada
3 USA
3 South Africa (Republic of)
3 Australia
3 Brazil
3 Argentina
3 Saudi Arabia
6 Nigeria
6 Algeria
6 Zaire
6 Libya
3 Israel
3 Egypt

MAJOR URBAN AREAS:

3 New York
3 Chicago
3 Los Angeles
3 Miami
3 Mexico City
3 Rio De Janeiro
3 Buenos Aires
T Lima
3 London
3 Paris
3 Cairo
T Cape Town
3 Rome
3 Moscow
T Leningrad
3 Beijing (Peking)
3 Tokyo
3 Hong Kong
6 Calcutta
6 Sydney

LATITUDES AND LONGITUDES AND ASTRONOMICAL REGIONS: (Numbers in degrees o)

3	Equator	- 0
6	Cancer, Tropic of	- 23 1/2 North Latitude
6	Capricorn, Tropic of	- 23 1/2 South Latitude
3	Arctic Circle	- 66 1/2 North Latitude
3	Antarctic Circle	- 66 1/2 South Latitude
3	North Pole	- 90 North Latitude
3	South Pole	- 90 South Latitude
6	Greenwich (Prime Meridian)	- 0 Longitude
	International Date Line	- 180 Longitude (approximate)
	Central Illinois	- 40 North Latitude and 90 West Longitude
	West Longtitude	- West of the Prime Meridian Grenwich, UK
	East Longtitude	- East of the Prime Meridian Grenwich, UK
	Tropical (Low Latitude)	- 23 1/2 N - 23 1/2 S
	Temperate (Mid Latitude)	- 23 1/2 - 66 1/2 (Both North and South)
	Polar (High Latitude)	- 66 1/2 - 90 (Both North and South)
T	Hemispheres	- Northern, Southern, Eastern, Western

ANGLAM89 WORLD GEOGRAPHY: GEO 135 ISU Department of Geography-Geology

List of Geographical Features: Anglo America
(plus specific features as indicated by your instructor)

REGIONS AND TERRAIN FEATURES:
mountains, deserts, islands, etc.

Group of States:
3 Northeast (incl. New England)
3 South, The
3 Midwest
6 Great Plains
3 Rocky Mountain States
3 Pacific

Physiographic Regions of USA:
Appalachian Uplands
Coastal Plain (Atlantic and Gulf)
Central Lowlands
Great Plains
Rocky Mt. Chains
Basin and Range (Great Basin)
Sierra Nevada - Cascade Chain
Pacific Margin
Alaska - central and north
Hawaii
Baffin
T Aleutian
Vancouver
6 Keys (Florida)
Oahu
3 Rocky (Mountains)
Alaska (Range)
Brooks (Range)
3 Appalacian (Mts.)
6 Sierra Nevada
Coast (Ranges)
Ozark (Mountains)
Cascade (Mts.)
Canadian (Laurentian) Shield

WATER FEATURES: Rivers, Lakes, etc.

6 Chesapeake (Bay)
3 Mississippi (R.)
3 Missouri (R.)
Yukon (R.)
Mackinzie (R.)
3 Hudson (Bay)
6 Hudson (River)
3 St. Lawrence (River and Seaway)
St. Lawrence (Gulf of)
6 Ohio (R.)
6 Colorado (R.)
6 Columbia-Snake (R.)
3 Rio Grande (R.)
3 Everglades (swamp)
3 Great Lakes (5)
3 Erie (lake)
3 Superior (lake)
3 Michigan (lake)
3 Ontario (lake)
3 Huron (lake)
Winnipeg (lake)
Great Slave (lake)
Great Bear (lake)
3 Great Salt (lake)
3 Mexico (Gulf of)
Alaska (Gulf of)
6 Bering (Sea)
Bering (Strait)
T Gulf Stream

CITIES: (and urban/industrial areas)
(Which are capitals, and in what political unit is each located?)

3 New York
3 Chicago
3 Washington
3 Detroit
3 Philadelphia
3 Los Angeles
3 San Francisco
3 New Orleans
3 Miami
T Anchorage
3 Atlanta
3 Boston
6 Dallas-Fort Worth
3 Denver
3 Honolulu
T Minneapolis-St. Paul
6 Seattle
6 Salt Lake (City)
Calgary
3 Monteal
3 Toronto
3 Quebec
6 Ottawa
6 Vancouver
Winnipeg

STATES: (political units)

3 USA
3 Canada
3 Each of the 50 States of the USA
3 District of Columbia
Each of the 10 Provinces and 2 territories of Canada
3 Greenland
6 Bahamas (also islands)
6 Bermuda (also island)

List of Geographical Features: Latin America
(Plus specific features as indicated by your instructor.)

REGIONS AND TERRAIN FEATURES: Mountains, Deserts, etc.

Baja California (Pen.)
Sierra Madre Oriental
Sierra Madre Occidental
Sierra Madre del Sur
3 Andes
Brazilian Highlands
Guiana Highlands
Pampas
Patagonia
Atacama (Desert)
Panama (Isthmus of)
Amazon Lowlands
Altiplano
Llanos
3 Central America
T Falkland (Malvinas) (Islands)
Tierra del Fuego
Greater Antilles
Lesser Antilles
Galapagos (Islands)
Hispaniola
6 Yucatan (peninsula)
Southern Cone
Horn (Cape)
3 West Indes

CITIES: (and urban/industrial areas)

3 Mexico (City)
3 Rio de Janeiro
6 Sao Paulo
3 Buenos Aires
6 Caracas
T Santiago
Recife
T Brasilia
Bogota
T Lima
Quito
La Paz
3 Havana
Tegucigalpa
T San Salvador
Managua
San Jose
San Juan
Montevideo
Asuncion
Guayaquil (also Gulf of)
Guatemala (City)
6 Acapulco
Manaus

WATER FEATURES: Rivers, Lakes, etc.

Maracaibo ("lake")
Orinoco R.
3 Panama Canal (and Canal Zone)
3 Amazon R.
Titicaca (lake)
Parana R.
3 Caribbean (Sea)
Uruguay R.
Rio Grande
Rio de la Plata (estuary)
Nicaragua (lake)
Negro (R. in Brazil)
Mexico (Gulf of)
California (Gulf of)
6 Magellan (Strait)
Humboldt (current)

STATES: (political units)

3 Mexico
Belize
6 Guatamala
6 Honduras
6 Nicaragua
6 Costa Rica
3 Panama
3 Venezuela
6 Colombia
Guyana
Surinam
3 Brazil
T Ecuador
3 Peru
3 Chile
6 Bolivia
6 Paraguay
Uruguay
3 Cuba (also island)
3 Jamaica (also island)
6 Haiti
6 Dominican Republic
6 Bahamas (also islands)
T Grenada
6 El Salvador
3 Puerto Rico (also island)
3 Argentina
French Guiana
Trinidad and Tobago (also islands

List of Geographical Features: Africa South of the Sahara
(plus specific features as indicated by your instructor)

REGIONS AND TERRAIN FEATURES:
Mountains, Deserts, Islands, etc.

Horn (of Africa)
(see Somalia)
East Africa
Central (Equatorial) Africa
Southern Africa
West Africa
North Africa (has separate list)
Rift Valley (see text, not atlas)
Ethiopian (Highlands)
Zaire (Basin)
Drakensberg (Mts.)
3 Kilimanjaro (Mt.)
Good Hope (Cape of)
3 Sahara
Sahel
Kalahari (Desert)
Zanzibar (Island)
6 Madagascar (Island)
Canary (Islands) (part of Spain)

WATER FEATURES: Rivers, Lakes, etc.

3 Nile (also White and Blue Nile) R.
Zambezi R.
Limpopo R.
Orange R.
6 Zaire R. (formerly Congo R.)
Niger R.
Guinea (Gulf of)
6 Victoria (Lake)
Victoria (Falls)
Tanganyika (Lake)
Chad (Lake)
Nasser (Lake)
Malawi (Lake)
(formerly Lake Nyasa)
Aden (Gulf of)
Red (Sea)
Canary (Current)

CITIES: (and urban/industrial areas)

Timbuktu
Khartoum
T Pretoria
Mombasa
T Addis Ababa
Lusaka
3 Johannesberg
T Cape Town
Lagos
Kinshasa
Dar es Salaam
Abidjan
6 Nairobi
Kampala
Luanda
Harare (formerly Salisbury)

STATES: (polit. units)

Chad
Niger
Mali
Mauritania
Sengal
Gambia
Guinea-Bissau
Guinea
Sierra Leone
Liberia
Ivory Coast
6 Ghana
Togo
Benin (formerly Dahomey)
6 Nigeria
Cameroon
Gabon
Sao Tome and Principe
(also Islands)
Equatorial Guinea
(formerly Rio Muni)
6 Congo
6 Zaire
6 Angola
Djibouti
Somalia
6 Ethiopia
3 Kenya
6 Tanzania
Rwanda
Burundi
Zambia
Malawi
T Mozambique
Comoros (also Islands)
6 Madagascar
Botswana
Lesotho
Swaziland
3 South Africa (Republic of)
6 Uganda
6 Zimbabwe
Namibia (Admin. Terr; formerly South West Africa)
Burkina Faso
(formerly Upper Volta)
6 Sudan
Walvis Bay (South Africa admin. territory)
Central African Republic

List of Geographic Features: Europe (excluding U.S.S.R)
(Plus specific features as indicted by your instructor.)

REGIONS AND TERRAIN FEATURES:
Mountains, Deserts, etc.

3 Gibraltar
Pennines
6 Pyrenees
3 Alps
Appenines
Carpathian (Mts.)
Transylvanian Alps
Dinaric Alps
North European (Plain)
Hungarian (Basin)
3 Ural (Mts.)
T Sardinia
Cyprus
6 Silicy
Corsica
T Azores
Iberian (Peninsula)
3 Scandinavian (Peninsula)
6 Balkan (Peninsula)
3 Great Britain (Island)
Ireland (Island)
6 British Isles
3 England (part of UK)
3 Scotland (part of UK)
6 Wales (part of UK)
3 Northern Ireland (part of UK)
T Azores

Northern (Europe)
Western (Europe)
Eastern (Europe)
Southern (Europe)

WATER FEATURES: Rivers, Lakes, etc.

6 Rhine
T Elbe
Ebro
3 Thames
3 Seine
Po
6 Danube
6 Rhone
Oder
North Atlantic Drift (Current)
Bothnia (Gulf of)
6 North (Sea)
6 Baltic (Sea)
6 Black (Sea)
3 English Channel
Finland (Gulf of)
T Biscay (Bay of)
Tyrrhenian (Sea)
Ionian (Sea)
Adriatic (Sea)
Irish (Sea)
Norwegian (Sea)
3 Mediterranean (Sea)
3 Gibralter (Strait of)
6 Aegean (Sea)
Bosporus (Strait)
Marmara (Sea of)
Dardanelles (Strait)

CITIES: Urban and Industrial areas

3 London
T Glasgow
3 Paris
6 Amsterdam
T Rotterdam
T Hamburg
6 Copenhagen
6 Stockholm
6 Munich (Munchen)
3 Rome
3 Berlin
6 Vienna
3 Athens
6 Madrid
Reykjavik
6 Dublin
6 Oslo
6 Brussels
6 Lisbon
Bern
6 Bonn
6 Warsaw
6 Prague
6 Budapest
Tirane
Sofia
T Bucharest
6 Helsinki
T Marseilles
6 Belfast
Frankfort
6 Dublin
6 Belgrade
6 Venice

POLITICAL UNITS: Countries, States, etc.

3 United Kingdom
3 Ireland (also island)
3 Spain
3 Portugal
Andorra
3 France
Monaco
3 Belgium
3 Netherlands
3 Switzerland
T Luxembourg
3 Fed. Rep. of Germany (West)
3 German Democratic Republic (East)
3 Czechoslovakia
Liechtenstein
3 Italy
San Marino
Vatican
3 Greece
3 U.S.S.R. (extends into Asia)
6 Turkey (extends into Asia)
6 Cyprus (also island)
3 Norway
3 Denmark
3 Sweden
6 Finland
3 Iceland (also island)
Malta (also island)
3 Poland
3 Austria
3 Hungary
3 Yugoslavia
6 Albania
6 Bulgaria
6 Romania

USSR89-2 WORLD GEOGRAPHY: GEO 135 ISU Department of Geography-Geology

List of Geographical Features: U.S.S.R.
(Plus specific features as indicated by your instructor)

REGIONS AND TERRAIN FEATURES:
Mountains, Deserts, etc.

Tien Shan
6 Ural (Mts.)
T Caucauses
3 Siberia (has 3 main parts)
Western Siberian (Lowlands)
Central Siberian (Plateau)
Eastern Siberian (Mts.)
Kamchatka (Penninsula)
Kuril (Islands)
Sakhalin (Island)
Turkestan (5 SSR's)
3 Russia (historic name)

WATER FEATURES: Rivers, Lakes, etc.

Dnieper (Dnepr)
6 Volga
Ob
Amur
Amu Dar'ya
Syr Dar'ya
Lena
Yenisey
Finland (Gulf of)
Black (Sea)
White (Sea)
6 Baltic (Sea)
6 Caspian (Sea)
Baikal (Lake) Baykal
Aral (Sea)
Barents (Sea)
Okhotsk (Sea of)
6 Bering (Sea)
T Don
Japan (Sea of)

CITIES: (and urban/ industrial areas)

T Kiev
T Leningrad
3 Moscow
Vladivostok
Odessa
Sverdlovsk
Tashkent
Novosibirsk
Baku
Volgograd (formerly Stalingrad)
Murmansk
Irkutsk

POLITICAL UNITS: Soviet Socialist Republics (SSR's)

Russian S.F.S.R.
Ukraine
Moldavia
Belorussia
Lativia
Lithuania
Estonia
Armenia
Georgia
Azerbaydzhan
Turkmen
Tadzhik
Uzbek
Kazakh
Kirgiz

AUSTRA89 WORLD GEOGRAPHY: GEO 135 ISU Department of Geography-Geology

List of Geographical Features: Australia, New Zealand and Oceania.

REGIONS AND TERRAIN FEATURES:
Mountains, Deserts, Islands, etc.

Australian Alps (in Victoria)
Southern Alps
Nullarbor Plain
Great Dividing Range
Cape York (pen.)
Great Sandy (Desert)
Great Victorian (Desert)
Tasmania
North Island
South Island
6 Samoa
3 Tahiti
New Caledonia
New Guinea
3 Polynesia
6 Micronesia

WATER FEATURES: Rivers, Lakes, etc.

Darling (R.)
Murray (R.)
Carpentaria (Gulf of)
Great Australian Bight
Great Barrier Reef
Bass (Strait)
Coral (Sea)
Tasman (Sea)
Cook (Inlet)

CITIES: Urban and Industrial areas)

T Canberra
Wellington
6 Sydney
T Melbourne
Perth
T Auckland
T Brisbane
Adelaide
Darwin
Christchurch
Alice Springs
Hobart

STATES: Political Units

3 Australia
3 New Zealand
Western Australia
South Australia
Northern Territory
Queensland
New South Wales
Victoria
Tasmania

NOAFR89 WORLD GEOGRAPHY: GEO 135 ISU Department of Geography-Geology

List of Geographical Features: Northern Africa
Note: This list may be used twice; once with remainder of Africa and once with Middle East.

REGIONS AND TERRAIN FEATURES: Mountains, Physical regions, etc.

Atlas (Mountains)
Libyan (Desert)
3 Sahara

WATER FEATURES: Rivers, lakes, etc.

Gibraltar (Straits of)
Sidra (Gulf of)
Nasser (Lake)
3 Nile
Red (Sea)
3 Mediterranean (Sea)
Suez (Gulf of)
3 Suez (Canal)

CITIES: urban and industrial areas

Tunis
Rabat
T Algiers
T Tripoli
3 Cairo
T Alexandria

STATES: Political Units

6 Morocco
6 Algeria
Tunisia
6 Libya
3 Egypt
Western Sahara (disputed territory)

MIDEAST89 WORLD GEOGRAPHY: GEO 135 ISU Department of Geography-Geology

List of Geographical Features: Middle East (Southwest Asia)

REGIONS AND TERRAIN FEATURES: Mountains, physical regions, etc.

Anatolian (Plateau)(in Turkey)
Iran (Plateau of)
Mesopotamia
T Sinai (peninsula)
Zagros (Mtns.)
6 Cyprus (island)
T Asia Minor
T Levant

WATER FEATURES: Rivers, Lakes, etc.

6 Jordan (River)
Tigris (River)
T Euphrates (River)
Hormuz (Strait of)
Dardanelles (str.)
T Bosporus (str.)
Suez (Canal)
6 Persian (Gulf)
Oman (Gulf of)
Aden (Gulf of)
6 Red (Sea)
Suez (Gulf of)
Aegean (Sea)
Black (Sea)
6 Caspian (Sea)
6 Dead (Sea)
Marmara (Sea of)
Arabian (Sea)
3 Mediterranean (Sea)
Galilee (Sea of)(Lake Tiberias)

CITIES: (and urban/indust. areas)

3 Jerusalem
6 Istanbul
T Damascus
T Baghdad
T Mecca
Aden
6 Tehran
T Kabul
6 Beirut
Riyadh
6 Tel Aviv-Jaffa (Tel Aviv-Yafo)
T Ankara
Nicosia
Amman

STATES: (political units)

6 Afghanistan
3 Israel
6 Jordan
6 Syria
6 Lebanon
6 Turkey
6 Kuwait
3 Saudi Arabia
Bahrain
Qatar
United Arab Emirates
Oman
3 Iran
3 Iraq
Yemen (Peoples Dem. Rep. of)
Yemen (Arab Republic)
6 Cyprus (also island)
T West Bank (disputed territory)
Gaza (Strip) (disputed territory)
T Golan (Heights) (disputed territory)
3 Palestine (historic name)

List of Geographical Features: East and South Asia

REGIONS AND TERRAIN FEATURES:
Mountains, Deserts, etc.

T Borneo (Isl.)
3 Taiwan (Formosa) (Isl.)
Sumatra (Isl.)
T Java (Jawa) (Isl.)
Malay (Peninsula)
Korean (Peninsula)
6 Tibet (Plateau) (Xizang)
Mongolian (Plateau)
Deccan (Plateau)
Hokkaido
Honshu
Shikoku
Kyushu
Kuril
6 Ceylon (Isl.)
3 Orient, The
3 Far East
East Asia
South Asia
3 Southeast Asia
6 Indochina (historic name)
3 Himalayas
Ghats, Western and Eastern
6 Gobi (Desert)
South China (Highlands)
North China (Plain)
Hindu Kush
Kunlun Shan,
Thar (Desert)
Tien Shan (Mts.)
Fuji (Mt.)
3 Everest (Mt.)
Ryukyu
Xinjiang (Sinkiang)
T New Guinea
Kashmir (disputed area)
Hainan
Tarin (Basin)
Deccan (Plateau)

WATER FEATURES:
Rivers, Lakes, etc.

Amur
Huang He (Hwang Ho)
3 Chang Jiang (Yangtze)
Xi (Si) (Hsi)
Mekong
Thailand (Gulf of)
3 Ganges
Korea (Strait)
Indus
Brahmaputra
Taiwan (Strait)
Irrawaddy
Salween
Japan (Sea of)
South China (Sea)
East China (Sea)
Bengal (Bay of)
Arabian (Sea)
Tonkin (Gulf of)
Malacca (Strait of)
Yellow (Sea)
Inland (Sea)
Red
Yalu
Chao Phraya (Menam)

CITIES: urban andindustrial areas

Macau (Overseas province of Portugal)
3 New Delhi
6 Bangkok
3 Beijing (Peking)
T Seoul
6 Shanghai
T Guangzhov (Canton)
3 Hong Kong (Xianggang) (Colony of UK)
T Ho Chi Minh (City) (formerly Saigon)
Colombo
Islamabad
T Bombay
6 Calcutta
T Jakarta (Djakarta)
6 Manila
3 Tokyo
Nagoya
Osaka (with Kobe and Kyoto)
Yokohama
Hiroshima
T Chongqing (Chungking)

STATES: (political units)

6 Sri Lanka (formerly Ceylon)
3 China (Peoples Republic of mainland) (PRC)
China (Republic of) (Taiwan) (ROC)
3 Japan
3 Korea, North
3 Korea, South
3 Vietnam
6 Malaysia (incl. Malaya, Sarawak, Sabah)
3 Phillippines
6 Pakistan
T Nepal
3 India
6 Mongolia
Brunei
6 Singapore (also Island) (also City)
6 Burma
6 Laos
6 Papua New Guinea
6 Thailand
6 Kampuchea (formerly Cambodia)
Bangladesh
Bhutan
6 Indonesia

Appendix C

Place Names From The Cultural Literacy Foundation That Were Not Included In The Core Lists In Appendix B.

Notes: The Cultural Literacy Foundation lists had an entire and separate section on American geography because it is the home location of the main audience. Many American items listed below are certainly common knowledge for American college students, but their inclusion into the core list would have been disproportionate for use in a course on world regional geography. Numerous places, although well known, are simply too small to be in the course content. Because of cultural ties to Europe, the same reason to a lesser extent explains why so many European place names are in this Appendix C.

Anglo America

6 Adirondack (mts)
6 Allegheny (mts)
6 Badlands
6 Black Hills
6 Blue Ridge (mts)
6 Cape Cod
6 Great Smokey (mts)
6 Najave (Desert)
3 Niagara Falls
6 Erie (Canal)
6 Potomac (R)
T Tennessee (R)
3 Hollywood
6 Annapolis
6 Brooklyn
5 Houston
6 Kansas (city)
6 Las Vegas
6 Nashville
6 Pittsburgh
6 Portland
6 Saint Louis
6 West Point
6 Hoover Dam
6 Long (Island)
3 Cape Canaveral
3 Death Valley
3 Grand Canyon
3 Manhattan
3 Rushmore (Mount)
3 Yellowstone N.P.
6 Yosemite N.P.
6 McKinley (Mount)
6 Rainier (Mount)
6 Saint Helens (Mount)
6 Shenandoah (Valley)
6 Times Square
T Madison Avenue
6 Pikes Peak
T Cumberland Gap
T Cumberland (mts)
T Hatteras (Cape)
T Whitney (Mount)
T Painted (Desert)

Latin America

6 Virgin (Islands)

Africa (All)

6 Rhodesia
T Casablanca

Europe

T Vesuvius (mt)
6 Mont Blanc
3 Matterhorn
T Bavaria
T Capri
T Crete
3 Holland
3 Germany (not split)
T Britain
T Highlands, Scottish
T Ulster
T Riviera
6 Loire (R.)
T Berlin Wall
T Aberdeen
T Barcelona
T Bergen
T Bordeau
T Cologne
6 Edinburgh
T Florence
6 Geneva
T Granada
T Hague
T Liverpool
T Manchester
T Milan
T Naples
T Nice
T Sarajero
T Seville
T Stuttgart
T Versailles
6 Zurich

U.S.S.R.

T Crimea

East and South Asia

T Okinawa
T Red China
T Karachi
T Havoi
T Taipei
6 Delhi (not New Delhi)

Middle East

3 Arabia (not Saudi Arabia)

Australia and Oceania

6 Guam
6 South Seas